

Remarks

Claims Rejected By Examiner

Claims 13, 25-27, 49, and 50 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,708,740 to Wessberg for the reasons stated on pages 2-3 of the Office Action. The Examiner asserts that Wessberg discloses “a system for filling a vehicle (*i.e.*, an electromechanical type device) comprising input and output connectors (7,6) with associated vessels and valve components (2,3) associated therewith that cooperated to define a fluid channel (unlabeled), wherein the input and outlet connectors and associated valve components define a device/adaptor that can be considered separate from the associated fuel supplies that the components feed.” Applicants submit that these rejections have been overcome.

Independent claims 13 and 49 have amended to recite an adapter comprising input and output connectors that are capable of connecting the adapter to the outlet and inlet of a fuel supply and/or fuel chamber. The Wessberg reference discloses no such adapter that is capable of connecting to the outlet and inlet of a fuel supply and/or fuel chamber through the use of input and output connectors.

As such, Wessberg cannot anticipate amended claims 13 and 49, nor render either claim obvious. Claims 25-27 depend on claim 13 and recite additional limitations thereto, and these claims are also patentable. Claim 50, which depends from and recites additional limitations to claim 49 that “the fluid channel comprises micro-channel sized piping,” is also patentable.

Since generic claim 13 is patentable, consideration of all the withdrawn claims dependent direct or indirectly on claim 13 is earnestly requested.

Claims Objected To By Examiner

Applicants appreciate that claims 28, 29, 33-35, 51-54, 56, and 57 contain allowable subject matter. As such, Applicants have rewritten these claims in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims, as per page 3 of the Office Action. Claim 28 has been further amended to improve the

readability of the claims. Withdrawn claims 21 and 30 have been amended pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.121, also to improve their readability.

Applicants believe that all of the above objected-to claims have been properly amended and are now allowable. Since they are now patentable, consideration of all the withdrawn claims dependent on the newly allowable claims is earnestly requested.

Applicants assert that all claims are now in condition for allowance, early notice of which is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Because the claims as amended now contain 7 independent claims and Applicants have previously paid for 4 independent claims, provisions for the payment of the necessary fees for the additional 3 independent claims are enclosed herewith. No other fees are believed due, including fees for overall additional claims as the total number of claims is less than the number originally paid, or fees for additional extensions of time. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to The H.T. Than Law Group, Deposit Account No. 50-1980.

Respectfully submitted,

The H.T. Than Law Group

Date: June 23, 2006

/H.T. Than/
H.T. Than
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 38,632
Waterfront Center
1010 Wisconsin Ave., NW, Suite 560
Washington, D.C. 20007
(202) 363-2620